

# **State of Alaska FY2008 Governor's Operating Budget**

## **Department of Administration Public Broadcasting - T.V. Component Budget Summary**

## Component: Public Broadcasting - T.V.

### Contribution to Department's Mission

To provide critical programs and public telecommunication services that educate and inform Alaska television viewers throughout bush, rural and urban Alaska; to ensure the infrastructure for the dissemination of non-commercial public television and related services.

### Core Services

This component contains funding for basic operating grants to four private non-profit independently owned and operated public television stations that deliver public television programming to 87% of Alaska's population.

These stations and their wide spread network of low power translators are a key component of Alaska's telecommunications infrastructure. The stations each provide at least 11 hours a day of educational programming aimed at pre-school and young children. In addition, each station produces important local and statewide programming, including Alaska Weather, Gavel to Gavel, and Alaska history and public affairs programs. These programs are not available from any other sources.

Local ownership and local control of programming remains a strength of Alaska's public television system. As mass media continues to consolidate ownership, the FCC is now pushing a new debate on the need for preserving and encouraging *localism* in broadcasting. These stations collectively make significant local programming contributions to viewers in Alaska. These stations work together to provide relevant local, regional and state news, information and general entertainment programming.

### FY2008 Resources Allocated to Achieve Results

**FY2008 Component Budget: \$527,100**

**Personnel:**

Full time	0
Part time	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>

### Key Component Challenges

Even though Alaska's four public television stations have dramatically increased local fundraising, increases in the cost of doing business are escalating at a rate that cannot be offset by local private sector dollars in many Alaskan communities. Fixed costs, including sharply rising power generation, utilities and insurance costs, along with the demands for keeping up with new technology bring significant pressure to annual operating budgets and levels of service, in particular for the stations serving rural and bush communities.

Further diversification of non-state operating funds remains a high priority.

Local and regional public affairs programming is being cut back.

### Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2008

As required by federal law, public television now provides digital television broadcast services in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau. Public TV also operates a joint digital television production facility based in Anchorage. Digital television production equipment located at all four stations will be employed for the production of local, statewide and national program production. This combined facility is a good example of the kinds of cooperative efforts public broadcasters in

Alaska have employed in an effort to become more efficient and to expand program services to viewers. Additionally, using the capability of the digital spectrum, stations will begin providing additional public broadcasting services to viewers across the state. While the conversion to digital television has been a financial burden on each of the stations and has increased operating expenses, the new technology will provide opportunities for a dramatic increase in Alaska-based public service for young children, K-12 and college students and adult populations.

Development of a data network between stations will provide grantees with high speed digital interconnections between stations providing economies of scale in bandwidth acquisition and full compatibility with the state's digital wide area network.

Public television stations will continue to collaborate with each other and forge new partnerships with other Alaska institutions as a means to sustain and improve the level of local service while gaining cost savings and operational efficiencies.

## Major Component Accomplishments in 2006

Via the State's satellite infrastructure, public television stations continue to provide non-commercial programs to Alaskan viewers statewide. In addition to outstanding educational and entertainment programs enjoyed by all generations (e.g. Sesame Street, The News Hour, Nova, Masterpiece Theater, etc), the public television system provides Gavel to Gavel Alaska, coverage of the legislature, televised coverage of all arguments before the Alaska Supreme Court, presentations before the Alaska legislature by the congressional delegation, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the Governor.

PTV stations are participating in the national Ready to Learn Service, providing programming and training for parents and child care workers to help prepare young children for school.

KUAC Fairbanks, KTOO Juneau and KAKM Anchorage are now all operating digital television transmitters. Planning continues for the DTV production center in Anchorage which will allow all of the PTV stations to shoot edit and produce in HDTV. Digital television will bring new channels of over-the-air television for the majority of Alaskans, including children's and educational channels, as well as an all Alaska channel.

## Statutory and Regulatory Authority

AS 44.21.256-290	Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission
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### Contact Information

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**Public Broadcasting - T.V.  
Component Financial Summary**

*All dollars shown in thousands*

	<b>FY2006 Actuals</b>	<b>FY2007 Management Plan</b>	<b>FY2008 Governor</b>
<b>Non-Formula Program:</b>			
<b>Component Expenditures:</b>			
71000 Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0
72000 Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0
73000 Services	0.0	0.0	0.0
74000 Commodities	0.0	0.0	0.0
75000 Capital Outlay	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Benefits	627.1	527.1	527.1
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Expenditure Totals</b>	<b>627.1</b>	<b>527.1</b>	<b>527.1</b>
<b>Funding Sources:</b>			
1004 General Fund Receipts	627.1	527.1	527.1
<b>Funding Totals</b>	<b>627.1</b>	<b>527.1</b>	<b>527.1</b>

**Summary of Component Budget Changes  
From FY2007 Management Plan to FY2008 Governor**

*All dollars shown in thousands*

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
<b>FY2007 Management Plan</b>	<b>527.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>527.1</b>
<b>FY2008 Governor</b>	<b>527.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>527.1</b>